

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY: EUR/WE:RPGALLAGHER

APPROVED BY: EUR/WE:WHMARSH

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

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FOLL REPEAT ROME 2193 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ANKARA ATHENS

13 FEB 75 QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, TU, IT

SUBJECT: ITALIAN F-104 SALE TO TURKEY

REF: STATE 214224

1. ASSOCIATED PRESS LOCAL OFFICE HAS QUERIED EMBASSY PRESS OFFICER ABOUT STORY WHICH HAS FOLLOWING LEAD IN SENTENCE: QUOTE ITALY'S FIAT COMPANY HAS SOLD F-104 JET FIGHTERS TO TURKEY AFTER "SECRET AGREEMENT" BETWEEN FIAT'S GIANNI AGNELLI AND U. S. SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER, A GREEK DAILY REPORTED THURSDAY UNQUOTE. ARTICLE ALSO MENTIONS THAT SOME AIRCRAFT HAVE ALREADY BEEN SHIPPED AND OTHERS ARE BEING SHIPPED AND PURPOSE OF THIS SHIPMENT IS TO CIRCUMVENT CONGRESSIONAL EMBARGO OF THE SALES TO TURKEY.

1. EMBASSY SPOKESMAN IS TELLING AP THE FOLLOWING: QUOTE THE STORY CARRIED BY AP THAT FIAT SOLD F-104 JET FIGHTERS TO TURKEY IN A SECRET AGREEMENT BETWEEN FIAT'S AGNELLI AND SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER IS TO OUR KNOWLEDGE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COMPLETELY FALSE. THE SALE OF F-104'S WAS THE RESULT OF

NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE ITALIAN AND THE TURKISH GOVERNMENTS.
THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT REQUESTED APPROVAL FOR THE SALE IN EARLY
SEPTEMBER. IN FACT THIS NEWS WAS CARRIED BY ABC TV ON SEPTEMBER
25. THIS SHOULD PROVE CONCLUSIVELY THAT THERE WAS NO SECRET
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SECRETARY AND MR. AGNELLI. FOR DETAILS OF
THE PROJECT I REFER YOU TO THE ITALIAN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE.
UNQUOTE. VOLPE

UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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